

**JOINT PUBLIC MEETING**  
**of the**  
**MICHIGAN STATE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION**  
**and the**  
**MICHIGAN AERONAUTICS COMMISSION**

**January 26, 2017, Aeronautics Administration Building, Lansing, Michigan**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Todd A. Wyett, State Transportation Commission (STC) Chairman  
Michael D. Hayes, STC Commissioner  
George K. Heartwell, STC Commissioner  
Charles F. Moser, STC Commissioner  
Russ Kavalhuna, Michigan Aeronautics Commission (MAC) Chairman  
J. David VanderVeen, MAC Vice Chairman  
Rick Fiddler, MAC Commissioner  
Pete Kamarainen, MAC Commissioner  
Roger Salo, MAC Commissioner  
Maj. Gen. Len Isabelle, MAC Commissioner, Michigan Department of  
Military and Veterans Affairs Designee  
Kevin Jacobs, MAC Commissioner, Michigan Department of Natural  
Resources Designee  
Laura J. Mester, MAC Commissioner, Michigan Department of  
Transportation Designee

**Members Absent:** Angelynn A. Afendoulis, STC Vice Chairman  
Ron J. Boji, STC Commissioner  
Capt. Joe Gasper, MAC Commissioner, Michigan Department of State  
Police Designee

**Also Present:** Kirk Steudle, Director, Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT)  
David Brickey, Assistant Attorney General, Transportation Division  
Phil Browne, STC Commission Advisor  
Jack Cotter, Commission Auditor, Office of Commission Audits  
ShuKeyna Thurman, Executive Assistant, Office of Commission Audits  
Michael Trout, MAC Director, Office of Aeronautics  
Bryan Budds, MAC Advisor, Office of Aeronautics  
Judy Baker, MAC Analyst, Office of Aeronautics  
About 20 people were in the audience; a sign-in list is attached to the  
official minutes.

**I. WELCOME**

- ***Michigan State Transportation Commission – Todd Wyett, Chairman***  
STC Chair Wyett called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Chair Wyett asked for a moment of silence in memory of MDOT associates Dory Drouillard and Gregg Plenar.

He recognized and congratulated Director Steudle for being named one of Crain's Detroit Business Newsmaker of the Year for 2016.

- ***Michigan Aeronautics Commissioner – Russ Kavalhuna, Chairman***

MAC Chair Kavalhuna welcomed everyone and noted that the joint meeting is a good interaction between the two commissions and hopes to continue the tradition. Each MAC and STC commissioner introduced themselves, along with other staff members.

## II. **PRESENTATIONS**

- ***Michigan Department of Transportation Director's Report – Kirk Steudle***

Director Steudle welcomed everyone and began by reporting on the recently released 21<sup>st</sup> Century Infrastructure Commission Report. The report includes roads, bridges, airports, ports, transit, water, wastewater, energy, and broadband and can be found at [www.miinfrastructurecommission.com/](http://www.miinfrastructurecommission.com/).

He spoke about the recently signed into law SB 992, the Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) Act. Public Act 436 of 2016 establishes a task force chaired by MDOT to develop statewide policy recommendations on the operation, use, and regulation of UAS.

Director Steudle gave an overview of the Planet M promotion for autonomous vehicle research and development in Michigan. Infrastructure is being installed at the Willow Run plant where the American Center for Mobility is being built for the testing and certification of autonomous cars.

In closing, the Director cited a quote by the governor: "Michigan is the global center for automotive technology and development. By establishing guidelines and standards for self-driving vehicles, we're continuing that tradition."

- ***Office of Aeronautics Report – Michael Trout***

Mr. Trout welcomed everyone and thanked Director Steudle for his presentation and highlighting the newly enacted UAS bill. The task force will be an opportunity to create synergy, along with the autonomous vehicle research and development in Michigan.

Mr. Trout spoke about the MAC Annual Report to the governor. The report highlights programs administered by the Office of Aeronautics, such as the Airport Improvement Program, All-Weather Airport Access Program, Airport Loan Program, Air Service Program, and more. Reference was made to the list of statistics showcasing some of the many activities that the office is involved with. Also, mentioned in the report is the recently updated Policy Plan for Michigan Air Service. The plan supports primary airports across the state in terms of training needs and capital investments. The MAC Annual Report can be found at [www.michigan.gov/aero](http://www.michigan.gov/aero), select *Aeronautics Commission*.

Mr. Trout talked about the Michigan Aviation System Plan (MASP) that is currently being updated. The plan consists of a study of the system of airports in the state, which is recommended in the transportation section under aviation in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Infrastructure Commission Report. Another important element of the plan is the economic benefit component where the MASP will capture the value of aviation in Michigan. The consultant (Mead & Hunt) and staff have reached out to airports obtaining information

regarding businesses, services, employment, etc. Realizing the impact is in the billions of dollars, the Office of Aeronautics is looking to have a firm dollar amount and basis for such a figure. The target date for completion of the MASP is late spring/early summer.

Mr. Trout highlighted two upcoming events:

- Michigan Airport Conference – February 22-23, East Lansing
- Michigan Business Aviation Association Legislative Day – March 14, State Capitol

### III. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

MAC Chair Kavalhuna asked if anyone would like to make a public comment. There were no public comments.

### IV. **ADJOURNMENT OF JOINT MEETING**

With no further business being before both commissions, MAC Chair Kavalhuna declared this meeting adjourned at 9:40 a.m. and noted that each commission will hold separate meetings after a short break.

### V. **REGULAR PUBLIC MEETINGS OF BOTH COMMISSIONS TO FOLLOW**

- The STC met in the Commission Conference Room following this meeting, their minutes can be found at [www.michigan.gov/transcommission](http://www.michigan.gov/transcommission).
- The MAC met in the auditorium following this meeting, their minutes can be found at [www.michigan.gov/aero](http://www.michigan.gov/aero), select *Aeronautics Commission*.

(approved/signed, original copy on file)  
Russell A. Kavalhuna, Chairman  
Michigan Aeronautics Commission

(approved/signed, original copy on file)  
Michael G. Trout, Director  
Michigan Aeronautics Commission

Dated: March 29, 2017